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## EDITORIAL.

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IN the United States Geological Survey the geologic branch is reorganized by the appointment of Mr. C. Willard Hayes to the position of geologist in charge of geology, to take effect March 1, 1902. Mr. Hayes has been connected with the Survey since 1887, and has served with ability in various relations as assistant geologist, geologist, and since 1900 as geologist in charge of investigations of non-metalliferous economic deposits. He is now placed in administrative control of the geologic branch in order that the director may be relieved of executive details and the organization may be strengthened by the undivided attention of its head to carrying out the director's general policy. By this appointment Mr. Willis, who since 1897, as assistant in geology to the director, has performed the administrative work of geology, is freed from that duty and will be at liberty to give more attention to the division of areal and stratigraphic geology, of which he has charge.

In announcing these changes at a meeting of geologists in the office of the survey on February 20, the director called attention to the plan of organization of the geologic branch set forth in the *Twenty-first Annual Report*, pp. 20 and 21, and more fully elaborated in the forthcoming *Twenty-second Annual Report*. The fundamental idea of the organization is that scientific direction and supervision may be and in most cases should be separated from administrative control. Specialists are placed in charge, each one of investigations in a particular subject, Becker, Chamberlin, Day, Emmons, Hayes, Stanton, Van Hise, and Willis having been thus appointed, but their authority is in general limited to consideration and approval of the scientific aspects of the work. Administrative authority remained immediately with the director, and is now in a degree transferred to the geologist in charge of geology, Mr. Hayes.

B. W.